

Internet Resources

FOR MORE INFORMATION



The Internet makes learning more about water quality in Rhode Island much easier.

Here are a few of the most useful web resources:

1. <http://www.health.state.ri.us/environment/dwq.htm>
Office of Drinking Water Quality
Rhode Island Department of Health
2. <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/>
The US Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
3. <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/dwinfo/ri.htm> EPA information on the quality of Rhode Island Drinking Water.
4. <http://www.epa.gov/docs/ogwdw000/SDWAsumm.html> EPA summary of the Safe Drinking Water Act & Amendments of 1996
5. <http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/hfacts.html> Drinking Water fact sheets from the EPA..

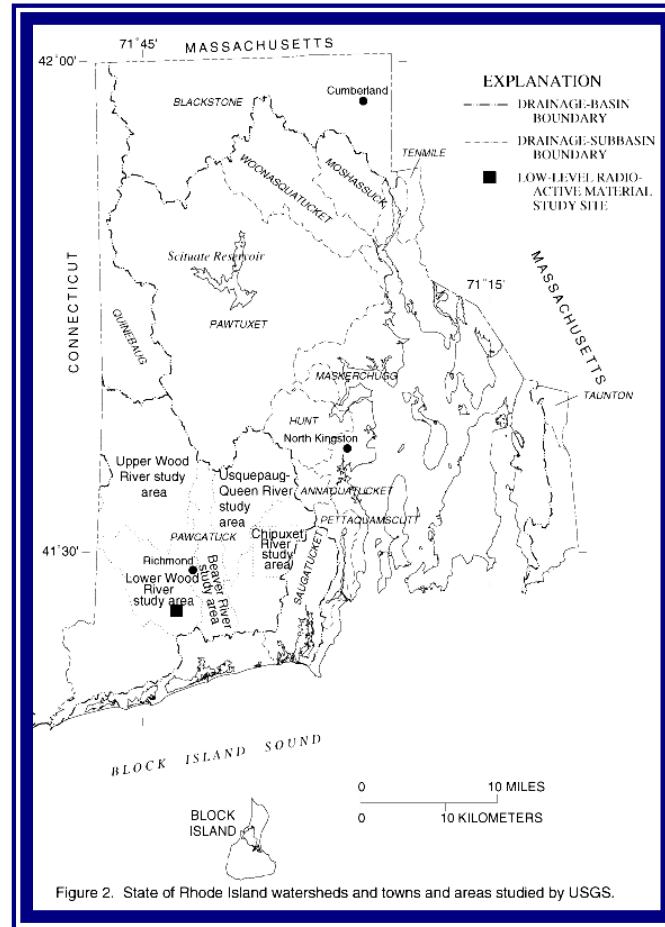


Figure 2. State of Rhode Island watersheds and towns and areas studied by USGS.

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RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

OFFICE OF DRINKING WATER QUALITY

Drinking Water



Capacity Development



SAFE DRINKING WATER



INTRODUCTION

The **Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 (SDWA)** seek to ensure that our public water systems have the ability to provide us safe drinking water, now and into the future. To achieve this, the Amendments include provisions for several new drinking water programs – including increased Federal funding known as the **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)**, and the **Capacity Development** program.



DWSRF provides low cost loans to public water suppliers in Rhode Island to improve their ability to deliver safe drinking water.



Summary of Capacity Development

Water system capacity is the ability to plan for, achieve, and maintain compliance with all applicable Federal, State and Local drinking water standards. There are three major components of capacity identified in the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments:

- » **Technical Capacity** refers to a water system's ability to produce safe drinking water as well as operate and maintain its equipment.
- » **Managerial Capacity** refers to the ability of the water system's personnel to administer the system's overall operations.
- » **Financial Capacity** refers to the financial resources of the Public Water Supplier and the fiscal management that supports the cost of operating the water system.



Water Tips

Improving drinking water needs the active interest and participation of the public.

- » Read the **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)** from your Water Supplier to learn about your drinking water.
- » Protect our water system by learning the proper way to dispose of wastes at home, school and work.
- » Participate in the process to develop a Drinking Water Capacity Development Strategy. Call **401-222-6867** -or- email **safewater@doh.state.ri.us**